

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 NEA-10 IO-14 DEAE-00 CIAE-00

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EUR:JREND AHL

EUR:JAARMITAGE

NEA/RA:TGRANT

S/NM:MLAWRENCE (SUBST)

DEA:MANTONELLI (SUBST)

NEA/PAB:ASCHIFFERDECKER (INFO)

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R 011952Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

USMISSION GENEVA

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR, US, UR

SUBJ: NARCOTICS COORDINATION WITH SOVIET UNION

REF: A. MOSCOW 2197, B. KABUL 1029, C. MOSCOW 6177

(5/29/73)

1. SOVIET INACTION ON US PROPOSAL OF MAY 1973 FOR
COOPERATION IN NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT IS PROBABLY RESULT
OF LOW SOVIET PRIORITY GIVEN TO PROBLEM OF TRANSIT OF
ILLEGAL NARCOTICS, PLUS LACK OF FOCUS FOR SOVIET NARCOTICS

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ENFORCEMENT EFFORT.

2. EXPERIENCE IN OTHER COUNTRIES WITH MARGINAL NARCOTICS PROBLEM IS THAT ENFORCEMENT STRUCTURE IS OFTEN DIFFUSE, OVERLAPPING, AND SOMETIMES LACKING IN CERTAIN AREAS. DIFFICULT TO SEE FROM HERE HOW BABAYAN AND SVIRIDOV FIT INTO ENFORCEMENT STRUCTURE. THEREFORE, THEIR ASSISTANCE IN COOPERATIVE ENFORCEMENT EFFORT COULD CONCEIVABLY BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE IF RESPONSIBLE SOVIET BUREAUCRACIES WERE TO FEEL THEY BEING BYPASSED.

3. NONETHELESS, GIVEN LACK OF FOLLOW THROUGH FROM IVANOV AND EXPRESSED INTEREST OF BABAYAN AND SVIRIDOV, DEPARTMENT AGREES IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PROCEED AS DESCRIBED PARA 4, REF A, IF ONLY TO PROVIDE SOME INDICATION OF FEASIBILITY

FURTHER EFFORT ALONG THESE LINES.

4. BIG QUESTION YET UNANSWERED IS OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF SOVIET NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT EFFORT SUCH AS IT IS. DEPARTMENT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY INFORMATION ON THIS WHICH MIGHT BE GLEANED FROM SOVIETS.

5. BASED ON EMBASSY EVALUATION AFTER MEETING WITH BABAYAN-SVIRIDOV-IVANOV, DEPARTMENT COULD APPROACH DEA IN WASHINGTON TO DETERMINE UTILITY OF FURTHER DIRECT DISCUSSION BETWEEN US AND SOVIET PROFESSIONALS IN ENFORCEMENT FIELD. CASEY

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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